BCCF E-MAIL BULLETIN #492

Your editor welcomes any and all submissions – news of upcoming events, tournament reports, and anything else that might be of interest to BC players. Thanks to all who contributed to this issue. To subscribe, send me an e-mail (swright2@telus.net); if you no longer wish to receive this Bulletin, just let me know.

Stephen Wright

BC Chess Federation

HERE AND THERE

RCC Elite Championship (November 1)

The latest Richmond Chess Champions Elite Championship (four games at 50 + 10) attracted sixteen players in two sections. Boslan Hong was the winner of the U1500 Section with 3.5 points, giving up a draw to the second-place finisher Ziheng Yang; Chloe Li and Zixuan Yang, each scored 2.0 points. In the U900 Section Lucas Zhou was the perfect winner, followed by Ryan Chen and Ocean Zhang.

LIC Invitational 8 (October 31 – November 1)



The series of invitational tournaments organized by Lulu Island Chess began last year as round robins, and the eighth edition returned to this format with just six players contesting five games over the Halloween weekend. The results were unusual, with one player on plus three (4.0/5) taking clear first, one player on minus three (1.0/5) at the bottom of the table, and everyone else

finishing with 50%. This wasn't through lack of trying – there were only three draws among the fifteen games played. The winner was Minjun Koo, who in the process achieved a NM norm.

RCC Elite Rapid (October 25)

The latest RCC Rapid event (five games at 15 + 10) included three members of the Sankrithi family from Lake Forest Park, just north of Seattle, who previously participated in last years' Canadian Open. One of them, Sarang, finished in first place in the U1800 Section with 4.5/5, Joanne Wangluo was second and Jason Ji third. Top-ranked Yude Lin led the field in the U1300 Section with 4.0 points, just ahead of Lucas Zhou and Ryan Chen who tied for second. And the six-player U800 Section was held as a round robin, resulting in Youxian Chen, Benny Belkin, and Lucas Huang taking the top three places. Overall there were twenty-three participants.

UBC Fall Open (October 23-25)


(photo Neelesh Jain)

The result of another collaboration between the UBC Chess Club and Lulu Island Chess, the UBC Fall Open was a five-round Swiss in three sections (60 + 30) plus blitz, with everything except the U1400 being FIDE as well as CFC rated. Fourteen of the twenty-five players in the Open Section were rated over 2000 but it was player number nineteen, Jaydon Yuan, who was the surprise of the event. Rated just 1858 at the start, he lost his first game but then won four in a row to take clear second place with a performance rating of 2372, and a post-event rating of 2082. The only player to finish ahead of him was Zhengyu Chen who also won his last four games but drew in the first round for 4.5/5 and first place. Tied for third a further half-point back were Minjun Koo, Nathan Yi-Hsin Yang, and CM Bohan (Henry) Yang.

In the U1900 Section Yuran Ma scored 4.5 to finish first while Anny Peng, Aadil Alromeshi, and Evelyn Lou shared second place. And Lan Nguyen was winner of the U1400 Section just in front of Kian Gupta, Tyler Hun, Neelesh Jain, and Chloe Li who all scored 3.5 points. Finally, the Blitz

saw organizer Ryan Leong tie for first with Xavier Zhang on 6.0/7, Aiden Zhu was clear third with 5.5 points.

FIDE World U7-U17 Championships (October 13-21)



Held at Roquetas de Mar in Spain, these world championships consisted of the “odd” two-year youth age groups U7-U17 rather than the “even” U8-U18. A total of fourteen Canadians competed, including from this province Echo Heming Fang (U7G), Josiah Lo (U11O), NCM Samuel Lu (U13O), Siyona Singh (U15G), and NM Justin Gao (U15O), along with ex-BC resident Wesley Russell (U17O). After eleven rounds Canada had won one medal – Echo Heming Fang tied for second in the U7G Section with 8.5, a half-point behind Leila Aldazharova (Kazakhstan), but finished third on tiebreaks – congratulations! Other top-ten finishers for Canada were Anaisha Sharma (10th, U7G), Anagh Sahni (9th, U9O), and Anni Guo (6th, U17G).

Fang, Echo Heming – Pichler,Leonore (1626) [B13] FIDE World U07G Roquetas de Mar (8.7), 12.10.2026

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.h3 Nc6 6.Nf3 Bf5 7.a3 e6 8.Nc3 Be7 9.Be2 0–0 10.0–0 Rc8 11.cxd5 exd5 12.Bf4 Ne4 13.Rc1 Nxc3 14.Rxc3 Be4 15.Rc1 Bxf3 16.Bxf3 Qb6 17.Be3 Qxb2 18.Bxd5 Qxa3 19.Bf3 Qd6 20.Qe2 Bf6 21.Bxc6 Rxc6 22.Rcd1 Qb4 23.Rb1 Qe7 24.Qd2 Rd8 25.Rfe1 Qd7 26.Qd3 h6 27.Rbc1 Re6 28.Rcd1 Bxd4 29.Bxd4 Rxe1+ 30.Rxe1 Qxd4 31.Re8+ Rxe8 32.Qxd4 Ra8 33.Qd5 Rb8 34.Qa5 Ra8 35.Qc7 b5 36.Qc5 Rd8 37.Qxb5 Rd1+ 38.Kh2 Ra1 39.Qe5 Ra2 40.Qe8+ Kh7 41.Qxf7 Ra1 42.g4 a5 43.Qa7 a4 44.f4 Ra2+ 45.Kg1 a3 46.Qa4 Ra1+ 47.Kf2 a2 48.Qc2+ Kh8 49.Qc8+ Kh7 50.Qf5+ Kh8 51.Qd5 Rf1+ 52.Kxf1 a1Q+ 53.Kf2 Qb2+ 54.Kg3 Qc3+ 55.Qf3 Qxf3+ 56.Kxf3 Kh7 57.h4 Kg6 58.Ke4 Kf6 59.Kd5 g5 60.fxg5+ hxg5 61.h5 Kg7 62.Ke5 Kh6 63.Kf6 Kh7 64.Kxg5 Kg7 65.Kf5 Kh7 66.Kf6 Kg8 67.g5 Kh8 68.Kf7 Kh7 69.g6+ Kh6 70.g7 Kxh5 71.g8Q Kh4 72.Kf6 Kh3 73.Kf5 Kh2 74.Kf4 Kh1 75.Kf3 Kh2 76.Qg2# 1–0

Langley Chess Club Championship (September 14 – October 19)



Organizer Brian Davidson, Jose Prem, TD James Kerry (photo by Chess Maps)

Held on club nights (Mondays) in September and October at the rate of one game a week, this year's Langley CC Championship was a five-round Swiss involving two dozen players. Placing first at the top of the crosstable was Jose Prem with a perfect 5.0/5, a point ahead of veteran Brian Sullivan who was clear second. There was a tie for third place between Umang and Kriyaansh Banatwala and Brian Davidson.

Fraser Valley Classical 7 (October 17-18)

The seventh edition of the Fraser Valley Chess Academy's Classical series took place the week after the BC Closed Championship and shared one player – NM Yidong Chen, who had won the Closed on tiebreak. As he outrated everyone else in the Classical Open by almost a thousand rating points it was no great surprise that he won the twenty-player section with 5.5/6, this including a half-point bye in the fourth round. Clear second was Kian Gupta, and Noah Li, Vipul Danny Rajamani, Liam Khang Pham, and Martin Jean-Daniel all scored 4.0 points. The age-restricted Under 10 Section saw Eden Chi take the top prize, also with 5.5/6, while Kyler Bruntlett and Amrith Arun were second and third on tiebreak after both scoring 4.5 points. Eleven players also participated in the adjunct Blitz, won by Liam Khang Pham on 6.5/7 ahead of Kian Gupta and Noah Li.

Washington Challenger's Cup and Women's Championship (October 17-18)

Also on the same weekend were two prominent events in Bellevue, WA. Among the one hundred and thirty-five players participating in the three sections of the Challenger's Cup were Don Hack, Moses Li, Sining Lou, CM Barath Subramanian Suresh, Yaswitha Suresh, Jordan Szeto, and WCM Joanne Wangluo from this province, also the now ninety-two year old legend Viktors Pupols. The overall winner was GM Vladimir Belous with 4.5/5, just ahead of CM Vidip Kumar Kona and Anton Barash; top Canadian was Barath on 3.0 points. Along side at the same location

was the Washington Women's Championship which included BC juniors Evelyn Lou and Martina Szeto among its twenty-five player field. Despite losing in the first round, top-ranked WFM Chouchanik Airapetian came back with four unanswered wins to claim the title for the seventh time.



The tournament hall with the Women's Championship on the right

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JACK TAYLOR MEMORIAL (October 23-25) by Paul Leblanc

David Armstrong Joins the Elite. The Jack Taylor Memorial is one of those BC events with a long history, this being the forty-first year. The list of names on the trophy include Victoria masters Harry Moore, Howard Wu, Gary Basanta, Dave Herder, Dan Scoones, Valeria Gansvind, Roger Patterson, Jason Cao, and Zulfikar Sali. Other high-profile winners include GM Pascal Charbonneau and IM Ray Kaufman.



Organizer Paul Leblanc, David Armstrong, Arbiter Nigel Hanrahan

This year's event attracted sixty-seven players, mostly from Vancouver Island but with a smattering of mainland and out-of-Province entries. We had Jim Musumeci from El Cajon, California, Xiaosong (Stephen) Zhang from Shanghai and Oliver Edden from Edmonton.

In the Premier Section Nicholas Jackson led the field with 4.0-0.0 going into the last round. Nicholas recently moved to Victoria from Ontario to complete naval officer training with the Royal Canadian Navy. Right behind him with 3.5 were David Armstrong and Emilian Holmgren. In the final round David defeated Nicholas while NM Zulfikar Sali held Emilian to a perpetual draw, allowing David to finish clear first with 4.5-0.5.



Round 5 Board 1 David Armstrong vs Nicholas Jackson. On Board 2 are Emilian Holmgren vs Zulfikar Suli.

The U1600 Section finished with a two-way tie for first place between Amal Guzairov and Tyler Fowler, both from Victoria with scores of 4.5-0.5. Similarly, the U1300 Section ended in a tie between Victoria players Daisy Brown and Mya Bruckner at 4.0-1.0.



Mya Bruckner vs Daisy Brown

The Top unrated prize was split between three Victoria players: Marielle Abusmas, Azadeh Goodarzi and Quillan Lockley, all at 3.0-2.0. Top woman prize was split between Marielle Abusmas and Azadeh Goodarzi, at 3.0-2.0, given that Mya and Daisy won larger prizes for their section victory. The tournament was held at the Saanich Commonwealth Recreation Center. Arbiter was Nigel Hanrahan, NA. Organizer was Paul Leblanc, NA. Thanks to Roger Patterson for creating the website and registration.

Armstrong, David (2000) – Jackson, Nicholas (1990) [B40] Jack Taylor mem (5.1), 25.10.2026

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 e6 3.g3 d5 4.exd5 exd5 5.d4 Nf6 6.Bg2 Qe7+ 7.Be3 Ng4 8.0–0 Nxe3 9.fxe3 g6 10.Nc3 Be6 11.e4 dxe4 12.Nxe4 Nc6 13.d5 0–0–0 14.d6 Qd7 15.Nxc5 Qxd6 16.Qxd6 Rxd6 17.Nxe6 Rxe6 18.Ng5 Re2 19.Rxf7 Bc5+ 20.Kh1 Rxc2 21.Be4 Rxb2 22.Bxc6 bxc6 23.Ne4 Bb6 24.a4 h5 25.a5 Bc7 26.Rc1 Re8 27.Rxc6 Rxe4 28.Rcxc7+ Kb8 29.Rc1 Ree2 30.a6 Rxh2+ 31.Kg1 Rbg2+ 32.Kf1 Rc2 33.Rxc2 Rxc2 34.Rb7+ Kc8 35.Rxa7 Ra2 36.Kg1 g5 37.Rg7 Rxa6 38.Rxg5 Ra2 39.Rxh5 Kd7 40.Rh2 Rxh2 41.Kxh2 Ke7 42.Kh3 Kf6 43.Kh4 Kg6 44.Kg4 Kf6 45.Kh5 Kg7 46.Kg5 Kf7 47.Kh6 Kg8 48.g4 Kh8 49.g5 Kg8 50.Kg6 Kh8 1–0

National Arbiter Seminar (January 2 and 9)

IA/IO Hal Bond and FA Heidi Gay are pleased to announce an upcoming National Arbiter (NA) Seminar for January 2026. This seminar will be virtual on Zoom. The seminar is open to all interested in chess arbitration, and can be counted towards the requirements for the National Arbiter title. Space is limited to 25 participants. Details

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SPIDER CHESS POSITION REVIEW

Spider Chess is a website which offers free lessons, puzzles, openings, and endings. One of the features offered are Chess Position Reviews, where published games become interactive learning moments. This process has been applied to a game from our last issue, Chen-Morozov from the first round of the BC Closed – check it out:

https://playchessonline.eu/position-reviews/chen-morozov-bccf-championship

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Taylor, John ("Jack") Monteith (July 11, 1907 - September 9, 1974)

Born in Glasgow, Scotland. The Taylor family immigrated to Canada when Jack was fourteen, arriving at Quebec aboard the S.S. Cassandra on July 1, 1922. They first lived in Regina, Saskatchewan, but settled permanently in Vancouver a few years later. After graduating from UBC Jack worked as a traffic manager, initially for the David Spencer Department Store (bought by Eatons in 1948), later for Forsts Ltd. Jack Taylor did not learn to play chess until he came to Vancouver, but progressed so rapidly that only five years later, in 1929, he won the B.C. Championship: "The victory of Mr. J.M. Taylor by 5-0 proclaims the appearance of a new star in the British Columbia chess firmament. The new champion is a British Columbia University man, twenty-one years of age, and is evidently modest and unassuming, for he asks for explanatory notes to the game and helpful information. His opening is scholarly with considerable combinative power in the middle game, is our verdict." [Thomas Piper, Daily Colonist, 14 April 1929]

"Mr. J.M. Taylor gave us the pleasure of his company for a few days. The new champion is well versed in the learning of chess, plays over the classical examples from memory, and has a sound position judgment with combinative powers of a high order. He is a most pleasant opponent, courteous and unassuming in manner, and is a valuable acquisition to British Columbia in general and Vancouver in particular." [Thomas Piper, Daily Colonist, 4 August 1929]



Taylor repeated as B.C. Champion in 1930, 1938, and 1945, and tied for first in 1953; he was also Vancouver Champion on numerous occasions. Jack never made much of a mark nationally, always finishing in the lower half of the Canadian Championships he played in (Saskatoon 1945, Vancouver 1951, Winnipeg 1953, Vancouver 1957). However, he did win a number of miniatures in these competitions due to his sharp eye for tactics; he won games in 12 and 10 moves respectively in the 1945 and 1953 competitions. Jack was a very popular player, and was instrumental in the development of the City Chess Club when it was formed as an offshoot of the Vancouver Chess Club in 1948.

"We note with regret the passing of Jack Taylor. Jack loved chess and played a very good game. In 1929, Jack won the B.C. Championship. In his last tournament, Jack came second in the 'A' Section of the B.C. Class Championships in April. However, Jack will be remembered most for his candour and cheerfulness; whenever you wanted to see somebody enjoying himself, all you had to do was go and watch Jack Taylor, the man with the smile." [CFC Bulletin, January/February 1975]



The medal won by Jack Taylor in the 1930 BC Championship

Taylor, Jack – Yates, Bertram Arthur [B01] BC ch?, 1929

1.e4 d5 2.exd5 Qxd5 3.Nc3 Qd8 4.d4 c6 5.Bf4 Nf6 6.Nf3 e6 7.Bd3 Bd6 8.Bxd6 Qxd6 9.0–0 Nbd7 10.Qe2 Nb6 11.Rae1 Nbd5 12.Nxd5 cxd5 13.Ne5 a6 14.f4 0–0 15.g4 Re8 16.g5 Nd7 17.Bxh7+ Kf8 18.Qh5 Nxe5 19.fxe5 Qc7 20.Bg6 1–0

Taylor, Jack – Patrick, King S. [B32] BC ch Victoria (2), 04.1930

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 e5 5.Nb3 Bc5 6.Nc3 Bb6 7.Nd5 Nge7 8.Bg5 0–0 9.Nxe7+ Nxe7 10.Qd6 f6 11.Bc4+ Kh8 12.h4 Bc7 13.Qd1 fxg5 14.hxg5 Bb6 15.Rxh7+ Kxh7 16.Qh5# 1–0

Taylor, Jack – Hall, Leonard [C15] CAN ch Saskatoon (6), 1945

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.Bd3 Ne7 5.Nf3 0-0 6.0-0 Bxc3 7.bxc3 dxe4 8.Bxe4 c6 9.Bxh7+ Kxh7 10.Ng5+ Kg8 11.Qh5 Re8 12.Ba3 1-0

Taylor, Jack – Panton, George [D53] City CC ch Vancouver, 11.1948

1.d4 e6 2.Nf3 d5 3.c4 Nf6 4.Bg5 Be7 5.Nc3 c6 6.e3 Nbd7 7.Rc1 h6 8.Bh4 g5 9.Bg3 Nh5 10.Be5 Nxe5 11.Nxe5 Nf6 12.Bd3 Nd7 13.Nxd7 Bxd7 14.0–0 Bd6 15.e4 dxc4 16.Bxc4 Qa5 17.d5 Bf4 9 18.dxe6 fxe6 19.Qh5+ Ke7 20.Rcd1 Raf8 21.Rd3 Bd6 22.Rfd1 Be8 23.Rxd6 Bxh5 24.Rxe6+ Kf7 25.Rd7+ Kg8 26.Rg6# 1–0

Jursevskis, Miervaldis – Taylor, Jack [C76] BC ch Vancouver, 03.1951

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 d6 5.c3 g6 6.d4 Bd7 7.Ng5 h6 8.Nf3 Bg7 9.d5 Nb8 10.Bc2 Ne7 11.c4 0–0 12.Nc3 a5 13.h3 Na6 14.Nh2 Nb4 15.Bb1 c6 16.dxc6 Bxc6 17.0–0 f5 18.f3 f4 19.a4 Na6 20.Nb5 Bxb5 21.axb5 Nc5 22.b3 h5 23.Bd2 Qb6 24.Kh1 d5 25.exd5 e4 26.Bxa5 Rxa5 27.Rxa5 Nf5 28.b4 Ng3+ 29.Kg1 Nd3+ 30.c5 Bd4+ 31.Rf2 Bxf2# 0–1

Doe, Raymond – Taylor, Jack [A16] CAN ch Winnipeg (9), 09.1953

1.c4 Nf6 2.Nc3 d5 3.cxd5 Nxd5 4.e4 Nb4 5.Qa4+ N8c6 6.d4 Bd7 7.a3 Nxd4 8.Bb5 Bxb5 9.Nxb5 Ndc2+ 0-1

A MODERN RAVEN

Halloween has just passed (or Guy Fawkes, if you prefer), and to commemorate the occasion we offer the following reworking of Edgar Allan Poe's famous poem as given in *Checkmate* magazine (published by J.H. Graham of Prescott, Ontario) in March 1901:

Once upon an evening dreary, as I pondered, somewhat weary,
O'er a mean and trying endgame which I'd lost the night before;
While I studied, nearly napping, suddenly there came a tapping,
As of some one gently rapping, rapping on the chess club door.

"Come!" I cried, somewhat uncertain who could be behind the curtain,
Hoping it might be some fellow I had often licked before;
Stepped an unassuming mortal soft across the darkened portal,
And announced his name as Eppens – simply Eppens – nothing more.

“Hello!” I said, my scheme beguiling, for I to myself was smiling,
“Sit ye down, good Mister Eppens, sit ye down I do implore”;
For I thought that, very knowing, soon I will some tricks be showing
That this simple Mister Eppens ne'er did even dream before.

I drew white, and so I started on an opening I had charted,
One I knew to be a ripper, which I'd played oft times before;
But, to my great consternation, he answered back in straight rotation,
And I soon was floundering wildly very, very far from shore.

Not an instant stopped or stayed he, soon he captured my white lady,
And he busted into flinders all the tricks I had in store.
On he went, and never stopping, one by one my pieces dropping,
Till he gently whispered “checkmate!” – simply this and nothing more.

Then I rose up, greatly chastened, and at once I quickly hastened
Out and kicked myself, in fancy, 'round a dozen blocks or more,
And my bump of condescension shrunk to almost no dimensions,
And my heart was very humble – humble to its inner core –
Then I vowed that youthful strangers I would tackle – nevermore.

COMING EVENTS: see listings at CFC, BCCF and Northwest chess websites

PCC Monthly Rapid New Westminster, November 8, Details

RCC Elite Rapid Richmond, November 8, Details

Scholastic Junior Rapid Championship Port Coquitlam, November 8, Details

Vancouver Chess Festival 16 Vancouver, November 14-15, Details

Greater Vancouver Chess Tournament 12 Burnaby, November 21-22, Details

BC Junior Championship Richmond, November 28-29, Details

Victoria Autumn Leaves Rapid Victoria, November 29, Details

BCJCA Winter Rapid Burnaby, December 6, Details

PCC Monthly Rapid New Westminster, December 6, Details

RCC Elite Championship Richmond, December 6, Details

Langley Fall Quads Langley, December 7, 14, 21, Details

RCC Elite Rapid Richmond, December 13, Details